

Message Text

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60

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SS-15 EB-11 OMB-01 CIEP-02 NSC-10

DODE-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 IO-12 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-10

L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01

USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 COME-00 ACDA-19 STR-08

RSR-01 /183 W

----- 118020

R 050455 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3600

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USEC BRUSSELS 905

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 5501

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR JA XG

SUBJ: OFFICIAL JAPANESE COMMENT ON DR KISSINGER' S
APRIL 23 SPEECH

REF TOKYO 5396

SUMMARY: FONMIN OHIRA HAS MADE POSITIVE PUBLIC
COMMENT ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS DURING EXTENDED
OVERSEAS TRIP. FONOFF HAS REACTED CAUTIOUSLY
AND SOUGHT FURTHER EXPOSITION. END SUMMARY.
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1. OFFICIAL JAPANESE COMMENT ON DR KISSINGER' S APRIL 23 SPEECH HAS BEEN SLOW TO EMERGE, DUE IN PART TO DEPARTURE FROM TOKYO OF FONMIN OHIRA SHORTLY AFTER SPEECH WAS DELIVERED. OUR SOURCES INDICATE THAT FONOFF FIRST NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION ONLY HAD TIME TO PREPARE VERY BRIEF ANALYSIS FOR OHIRA TO TAKE ALONG WITH COPY OF SPEECH WHEN HE LEFT TOKYO. THAT ANALYSIS CONTAINED THREE MAIN POINTS: (A) SPEECH REFLECTS RECENT TREND IN USG POLICY TO TREAT JAPAN AS EQUAL AS EUROPE ; (B) KISSINGER SAID HE WAS NOT OFFERING US PRESCRIPTION TO CORRECT PROBLEMS OF ALLIANCE, AND EXAMINATION OF SPEECH BEARS OUT THIS POINT; (C) JAPAN SHOULD AWAIT EUROPEAN REACTIONS BEFORE COMMITTING ITSELF.

2. DESPITE CAUTIOUS ADVICE CONTAINED IN FONOFF MEMO, OHIRA HAS PUBLICLY SUPPORTED DR KISSINGER' S SUGGESTIONS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN COURSE OF HIS TRIP. ACCORDING TO PRESS, AT FIRST STOP (IN BELGRADE) DURING MEETING WITH FONMIN MINIC, HE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER AND, COMMENTING ON KISSINGER' S REFERENCE TO JAPAN' S COOPERATION, SATED HENTJS COOPERA- TION IS NECESSARY IN SETTLEMENT OF ATLANTIC PROBLEMS IN TRADE AND MONETARY AFFAIRS. SUBSEQUENT REPORTS INDICATE OHIRA SUPPORTED NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER AT PRESS CONFERENCE ON ARRIVAL IN PARIS, AND THAT IN MEETING WITH FONMIN JOBERT HE DESCRIBED KISSINGER' S PROPOSALS AS QTE UNDERSTANDABLE UNQTE AND NOTED THAT THEY CONCERN NOT ONLY ATLANTIC COMMUNITY BUT ENTIRE WORLD. ON CONCLUSION OF TALKS IN PARIS, OHIRA REITERATED TO PRESS THAT QTE JAPAN AGREED TO THE KISSINGER PLAN UNQTE AND THAT ATLANTIC PROBLEMS ARE NOT PROBLEMS OF ATLANTIC NATIONS ALONE BUT ARE PROBLEMS THAT SHOULD BE HANDLED ON GLOBAL BASIS. ON SAME OCCASION, HE STATED THAT JAPAN IS COOPERATING WITH US IN MONETARY

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AND TRADE MATTERS AND WILL PROMOTE SUCH COOPERATION FURTHER, PARTICULARLY IN FIELD OF NATURAL RESOURCES, EVEN IF THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER. OHIRA SAID HE EXPECTED PRESIDENT NIXON WOULD MAKE PUBLIC DETAILS OF NEW CHARTER DURING FORTHCOMING VISIT TO EUROPE AND ADDED THAT JAPAN WOULD COOPERATE

IN WHATEVER FIELDS IT MAY FIND APPROPRIATE.
(REPORTS FROM OHIRA' S FINAL STOP, IN BRUSSELS, HAVE NOT
YET BEEN RECEIVED IN TOKYO.)

3. VISIT TO TOKYO OF INR DIRECTOR CLINE PROVIDED
EMBOFFS WITH SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES TO PROBE
REACTIONS TO KISSINGER SPEECH AMONG WIDE RANGE
OF FONOFF OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY THOSE ON
POLICY PLANNING SIDE (RESEARCH AND PLANNING DEPT.
DIRGEN KURODA, POLICY PLANNING DIV. HEAD GOTO,
ANALYSIS DIV. HEAD DONOWAKI, RESEARCH
DIV. HEAD ARIMA, ET. AL.) FOR MOST PART, FONOFF
OFFICIAL SOUGHT FURTHER EXPOSITION, SPECIFICALLY
ASKING IF DETAILED NSC STAFF STUDIES HAD PRECEDED
DRAFTING OF SPEECH, IF ENERGY QUESTION WAS AT HEART
OF KISSINGER' S CONCERNS, AND IF SOME INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD TO GIVE
APPROVAL TO NEW CHARTER. SEVERAL OFFICIALS
EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS
AMONG DEVELOPED NATIONS WERE KISSINGER' S PRIMARY
CONCERN; ANOTHER (UN POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIV. HEAD
OWADA) STRESSED ANCILLARY REQUIREMENT FOR JAPAN
TO IMPROVE ITS UNDERSTANDINGS WITH EUROPE,
NOTING DISMAL HISTORY OF TRADE TREATY NEGOTIA-
TIONS WITH EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AS CASE IN POINT.

4. FONOFF OFFICIAL ALSO NOTED SOME
LIMITATIONS ON JAPAN' S ABILITY TO RESPOND.
KURODA MENTIONED DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS IF
JAPAN APPEARED TO BE AUTOMATICALLY EMBRACING
AMERICAN PROPOSALS BEFORE THEY ARE FULLY UNDER-
STOOD. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE SAID QTE ATLANTIC
CHARTER UNQTE IS AWKWARD FORMULATION FROM
JAPANESE POINT OF VIEW SINCE JAPAN IS NOT ATLANTIC
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NATION; MOREOVER, PHRASE HAS WORLD WAR II CONNO-
TATIONS. OFFICIALS ALSO HAD DIFFICULTY UNDER-
STANDING HOW JAPAN MIGHT FIT INTO EXISTING
ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIPS. GOTO, FOR EXAMPLE,
UNDERSTOOD KISSINGER' S CALL FOR EUROPE AND JAPAN
TO DO FAIR SHARE IN MATTERS OF ECONOMY AND DEFENSE ,
BUT CITED WELL- KNOWN LIMITATIONS ON LATTER
ASPECT WHICH ARE PECULIAR TO JAPAN. FURTHER
CRITICISMS SURFACED IN SANKEI SHIMBUN ARTICLE
MAY 3 BASED ON FONOFF SOURCES, WHO MENTIONED
PROBLEMS FOR JAPAN' S ASIAN RELATIONS IF IT IS ONLY
ASIAN NATION DIRECTLY INVOLVED, AS WELL AS
NECESSITY TO AVOID IMPRESSION THAT CHARTER NATIONS
ARE BENT ON FORMING RICH MAN' S CLUB.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS IMPRESSION THAT FONMIN OHIRA IS TAKING VERY POSITIVE POSITION AND THAT FONOFF, AFTER DUE WEIGHING AND REFLECTING, WILL DO SAME. EVIDENCE OF LATTER IS EMERGING LINE THAT OHIRA IS NOW SOUNDING OUT EUROPEAN LEADERS, AND THAT PRIMIN TANAKA WILL THEN HELP GIVE CONCRETE FORM TO THE PLAN IN HIS FORTHCOMING MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT NIXON THIS SUMMER AND EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT HEADS IN FALL.

6. EMBASSY PLANS TO DEVELOP OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOLLOW- UP DISCUSSIONS WITH GOJ OFFICIALS AND POLITICAL LEADERS IN ORDER DEMONSTRATE ACTIVE INTEREST IN JAPANESE VIEWS.
INGERSOLL

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